

From: ["Thomas. Hattie" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B1EBAFC79FA94F308D9F6EBB0424E75A-THOMAS.HATTIE>](mailto:Thomas.Hattie@EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B1EBAFC79FA94F308D9F6EBB0424E75A-THOMAS.HATTIE)  
To:  
CC:  
Date: 9/26/2013 5:08:15 PM  
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 9/26/13

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## OPA Daily Digest for 9/26/13

### Congressional Inquiries:

**Sen. Roy Blunt** (Mo.) 9/25/13. Constituent concerns about property that they own considered as an abandoned hazardous waste site. Due: 10/9/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

**Sen. Claire McCaskill** (Mo.) 9/23/13. Subcontractor complaints of payments not received for work done for lead removal at North County Schools in St. Francois County. Due: 10/9/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

**Rep. Billy Long** (Mo.) 9/17/13. Subcontractor complaints of payments not received for work done on the Oronogo remediation project. Due: 10/2/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

### State Government Inquiries:

**Rep. Tom Sloan (Kan): 9/26/13:** Questions on submitting comments on the carbon pollution standards. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (closed)

### Press Inquiries:

**WOWT Channel 6, Omaha, Neb.** – Mike McKnight – 9/26/13: Follow-up to reporter's inquiry about situation involving complaints of Omaha property owner about remediation of neighbor's lead-contaminate yard soil at Omaha Lead Site. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

**KMBC Channel 9, Kansas City, Mo.** – Haley Harrison – 9/26/13: Questions about furlough. Referred to HQ/Office of Public Affairs. Contact: Hattie Thomas, 7762 (closed)

### Environmental Stories:

**St. Louis Beacon - University City meeting scheduled to discuss latest events at Bridgeton and West Lake landfills** - 9/25/13 - The controversy over the still-smoldering Bridgeton Landfill, and its proximity to nuclear waste, is apparently spreading, with a public meeting set up for Thursday in University City.

[https://www.stlbeacon.org/#!/content/32958/bridgeton\\_west\\_lake\\_remediation\\_092513](https://www.stlbeacon.org/#!/content/32958/bridgeton_west_lake_remediation_092513)

**St. Louis American - Landfill plans to isolate radioactive waste** - 9/26/13 - The managing company for the Bridgeton Landfill said it will construct an "isolation barrier" to separate radiation-contaminated material at the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site only 1,000 feet away, according to the EPA.

[http://www.stlamerican.com/news/local\\_news/article\\_c7af6ada-265b-11e3-ae12-001a4bcf887a.html](http://www.stlamerican.com/news/local_news/article_c7af6ada-265b-11e3-ae12-001a4bcf887a.html)

**Fox News - EPA admits new coal regulations won't reduce global warming** - 9/26/13 - An Environmental Protection Agency proposal designed to reduce CO2 emissions and reduce global warming will actually have no "notable CO2 emission changes." So a rule that will essentially ban new coal-fired power plants will actually have no impact on global warming. Got it. <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2013/09/26/epa-admits-new-coal-regulations-wont-reduce-global-warming/>

**St. Louis Beacon - Commentary: Climate change: Economics makes for strange science** - 9/26/13 - I would argue that warming theorists have exaggerated their case to advance an agenda that has become as much political as it is scientific. [https://www.stlbeacon.org/#!/content/32934/voices\\_guzy\\_climate\\_092413](https://www.stlbeacon.org/#!/content/32934/voices_guzy_climate_092413)

**Associated Press - EPA says U.S. falling short in shrinking annual Gulf "Dead Zone"** - 9/25/13 - Speaking in Minneapolis on Tuesday, Environmental Protection Agency officials said states in the river's watershed need to accelerate efforts to cut pollution from farm field runoff and discharges from sewage treatment plants. [http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2013/09/epa\\_says\\_us\\_falling\\_short\\_in\\_s.html](http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2013/09/epa_says_us_falling_short_in_s.html)

**The Hill - EPA chief hits road to sell climate change rules** - 9/25/13 - Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy is ramping up her PR campaign to win backing for carbon emissions limits for power plants. The agency unveiled proposed emissions limits on future plants last week, and now McCarthy's hitting the road for a three-state tour that begins in New York Wednesday at the Clinton Global Initiative summit. <http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/324465-epa-chief-hits-road-for-climate-rule-sales-pitches>

**Quad-City Business Journal - UN: Better livestock handling curbs greenhouse gas** - 9/26/13 - A U.N. report says improved livestock breeding and feeding practices could trim greenhouse gas emissions in the industry by up to 30 percent. [http://qctimes.com/business/un-better-livestock-handling-curbs-greenhouse-gas/article\\_82075fad-79c3-56a3-9103-da1e50b24f9a.html](http://qctimes.com/business/un-better-livestock-handling-curbs-greenhouse-gas/article_82075fad-79c3-56a3-9103-da1e50b24f9a.html)

**Lincoln Journal-Star - Court hearing on Keystone XL pipeline live Friday on NET** - 9/26/13 - Court hearing on Keystone XL pipeline live Friday on NETNET will run live television coverage and web streaming from the Friday afternoon Lancaster County District Court hearing on a lawsuit filed by three Nebraska landowners who oppose the Keystone XL pipeline. [http://journalstar.com/news/local/court-hearing-on-keystone-xl-pipeline-live-friday-on-net/article\\_437bb170-2502-5d92-97af-5f2b80c8f7f2.html](http://journalstar.com/news/local/court-hearing-on-keystone-xl-pipeline-live-friday-on-net/article_437bb170-2502-5d92-97af-5f2b80c8f7f2.html)

**Missouri Lawyers Media - Herculaneum-based Doe Run smelter settles lawsuits after veto override** - 9/19/13 - Two days after lawmakers overrode Gov. Jay Nixon's veto of a law to protect The Doe Run Co. from large punitive damage awards, the company settled three lawsuits alleging injuries from lead pollution. <http://tinyurl.com/HerclawSuits>

**Hays Daily News (Kan.) - Huelskamp: Regulation nation and congressional response** - 9/25/13 - From job-killing regulations to invasions of our privacy, the executive branch in Washington is out of control. The alphabet soup of federal agencies is on an all-out push to produce new regulations: from the EPA, to OSHA, to HHS. <http://www.hdnews.net/columnstory/huelskamp092513>

**Leavenworth Times (Kan.) - Trash talk helps us all** - 9/24/13 - Tammy Saldivar, the Solid Waste Operation Manager of the Leavenworth County Solid Waste Transfer Station, really just wants you to know that they're there. <http://www.leavenworthtimes.com/article/20130924/NEWS/130929639/-1/sports>

**The Hill - GOP's Upton wants to speed-up cross-border oil pipeline projects** - 9/26/13 - A senior House Republican is pushing a bill to speed up approval of cross-border oil pipelines, end the State Department's lead review role and cut environmental study. <http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/324769-senior-republican-amid-keystone-battle-floats-bill-to-speed-pipeline-reviews>

**Washington Post (blog) - Feds will be told who is furloughed and who is not** - 9/25/13 - Federal agencies will begin telling employees on Friday if they will be required to work or be furloughed during a partial government shutdown, according to union presidents who were briefed Thursday morning by Obama administration officials. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/federal-eye/wp/2013/09/26/feds-will-be-told-who-is-furloughed-and-who-is-not/>

**Washington Post (blog) - 'Nonessential' label is upsetting to federal workers** - 9/25/13 - What's in a word? Plenty, if you're a federal employee and the word is "nonessential." <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/federal-eye/wp/2013/09/25/furlough-label-is-essentially-upsetting-to-federal-workers/>

**Environmental Law Prof Blog - Waiting for the Stormwater Rule** - 9/25/13 - In 2009, in a settlement with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, EPA promised a new stormwater rule by November, 2012. That deadline has long since passed, and apparently EPA and environmental groups are at an impasse in their negotiations over a new timeline. [http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/environmental\\_law/2013/09/waiting-for-the-stormwater-rule.html](http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/environmental_law/2013/09/waiting-for-the-stormwater-rule.html)

**NPR - Rooftop Farming Is Getting Off The Ground (+audio)** - 9/25/13 - From vacant lots to , urban farmers are scouring cities for spaces to grow food. But their options vary widely from place to place. <http://www.npr.org/blogs/thesalt/2013/09/24/225745012/why-aren-t-there-more-rooftop-farms?ft=1&f=1025>

**Greenwire - EPA rule opens door for renewable heating oil markets** - 9/25/13 - U.S. EPA yesterday finalized a rule expanding the definition of heating oil, a move that will allow more renewable fuels to be eligible for credit under the federal biofuel mandate. <http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1059987830/>

**Greenwire - Lack of funding a key barrier to federal efforts -- report** - 9/25/13 - While the majority of decisionmakers in federal agencies cite the importance of energy efficiency, more than a third said a lack of funding creates barriers to adoption, according to a new survey sponsored by the Alliance to Save Energy and energy management company Schneider Electric. <http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1059987846/>

**Chemical & Engineering News - EPA Takes Action On Carbon Dioxide Emissions** - 9/25/13 - Steps that may lead to a future with much reduced carbon dioxide emissions from coal and natural gas power plants were put forth in a series of announcements at the end of September by the Environmental Protection Agency. <http://cen.acs.org/articles/91/i39/EPA-Takes-Action-Carbon-Dioxide.html>

**Brownfield Ag News - The benefits of ethanol (audio)** - 9/26/13 Jim Miller is Vice President and Chief Economist with Growth Energy: he says the "Food versus Fuel" debate ongoing in the ethanol industry is a myth. <http://brownfieldagnews.com/2013/09/26/benefits-ethanol/>

**Grist - Cow farts still stink up the climate — but relief is possible** - 9/26/13 - The latest official estimate of the extraordinary role that livestock-rearing plays in global warming comes with a glimmer of hope: Switching over to established best practices could slash the sector's emissions by a third. <http://grist.org/news/cow-farts-still-stink-up-the-climate-but-relief-is-possible/>

**Des Moines Register - Grassley concerned about ethanol credits** - 9/26/13 - As controversy swells over the cost of special credits tied to ethanol, U.S. Sen. Chuck Grassley asked the agency charged with overseeing the country's renewable energy policy for details on what is being done to prevent manipulation and abuse. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20130926/BUSINESS01/309260056/1029/>

**Nebraska Watchdog - Moody's: Operating Fort Calhoun nuke plant remains 'key risk' for OPPD** - 9/26/13 - The lack of nuclear power isn't the only casualty from the nearly two-and-a-half year shutdown of the Omaha Public Power District's Fort Calhoun reactor. In a largely ignored decision, Moody's bonding agency has downgraded the utility's credit rating from Aa1 to Aa2. <http://watchdog.org/107762/moodys-operating-fort-calhoun-nuke-plant-remains-key-risk-for-oppd/>

**Inside Climate - Boom in Unregulated Natural Gas Pipelines Posing New Risks** - 9/26/13 - Thousands of miles of 'gathering lines' are now operating at high pressure to serve fracking operations, but regulators don't even know where they are. <http://insideclimatenews.org/news/20130926/boom-unregulated-natural-gas-pipelines-posing-new-risks>

**Reuters - U.S. senator presses EPA on biofuel market volatility** - 9/25/13 - A U.S. senator is pressing the Environmental Protection Agency to release more information on the market used to trade biofuel credits, known as RINs, after suggestions of manipulation by Wall Street banks. <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/09/25/usa-ethanol-grassley-idUSL2N0HL2J320130925>

**E&E News - Conservative groups bring out the knives for renewable energy incentive ahead of broader reform debate** - 9/25/13 - Opponents of a key renewable energy incentive are taking early steps to ensure it does not win another extension. <http://www.eenews.net/stories/1059987801>

**Chicago Tribune - EPA: Modernizing Chicago water system may boost levels of lead** - 9/24/13 - Dangerous levels of lead are turning up in Chicago homes where pipes made of the toxic metal were disturbed by street work or plumbing repairs, according to a new federal study. <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-lead-in-water-promo->

**Triple Pundit - Major Companies Support the New EPA Standards for Power Plant Emissions** - 9/26/13 - Last week, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued new proposals for carbon pollution standards for new power plants. Twenty-two major companies signed a letter in support of the proposed standards.  
<http://www.triplepundit.com/2013/09/major-companies-support-new-epa-standards-power-plant-emissions/>

**Washington Post (blog) - What happens if you add lots of wind and solar power to the grid?** - 9/25/13 - Wind power is no longer an insignificant energy source in the United States. Turbines across the country provided 4 percent of the nation's electricity last year — enough to power half of Mexico.  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2013/09/25/what-happens-if-you-add-lots-of-wind-and-solar-power-to-the-grid/>

**Bloomberg - Annual Solar Installs to Beat Wind for First Time** - 9/25/13 - Solar power capacity installed around the world this year will beat wind for the first time driven by stronger policy support in key markets, according to Bloomberg New Energy Finance. <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-09-26/annual-solar-installs-to-beat-wind-for-first-time.html>

**BNA - Senate Democrats Expected to Remove Biotech Provision From Continuing Resolution** - 9/26/13 - The Senate Democratic leadership is expected to propose an amendment to a short-term funding resolution for the next fiscal year that would curtail special treatment accorded biotech crops that are the subject of litigation.  
[http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=36752172&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e1z4u3e2&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=36752172&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e1z4u3e2&split=0)

**BNA - Markey Joins Senate Climate Change Clearinghouse Group as Co-Chairman** - 9/26/13 - Sen. Ed Markey (D-Mass.) has joined the Senate Climate Change Clearinghouse as a co-chairman along with Sens. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) and Ron Wyden (D-Ore.). [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=36752151&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e1z3v9j1&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=36752151&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e1z3v9j1&split=0)

**BNA - States Seek Flexibility to Regulate Existing Power Plants but Fear Legal Challenges** - 9/26/13 - State regulators will likely have broad latitude to regulate carbon dioxide from existing power plants. [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=36752168&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e1z4t3v8&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=36752168&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e1z4t3v8&split=0)

**BNA - Study: Keystone's Potential Harm Underestimated Gas Pipeline** - 9/26/13 - The State Department's biological assessment considering potential impacts of the Keystone XL pipeline underestimated negative effects on wildlife. [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=36752155&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e1z3y7k9&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=36752155&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e1z3y7k9&split=0)

**BNA - House Oversight Subcommittee Plans Hearing on Wind Production Tax Credit** - 9/26/13 - A House Oversight and Government Reform subcommittee hearing on the wind production tax (PTC) credit will focus on the incentive's future and cost. [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=36752163&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e1z4n7v3&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=36752163&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e1z4n7v3&split=0)

**BNA - PHMSA Raises Maximum Civil Penalties, Updates Handling of Alleged Violations** - 9/26/13 - The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration issued a final rule increasing the maximum civil penalty for violations of federal pipeline safety regulations. [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=36752165&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e1z4p6k4&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=36752165&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e1z4p6k4&split=0)

**BNA - EPA Guide Addresses Runoff at Brownfield Sites** - 9/26/13 - The Environmental Protection Agency released guidance Sept. 25 to inform urban planners, engineers and developers how they can use bioswales, rain gardens and porous pavements to capture stormwater runoff at brownfield sites without mobilizing pollutants in the soil and contaminating groundwater. [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=36752189&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e1z8k8q2&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=36752189&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e1z8k8q2&split=0)

**Inside EPA - D.C. Circuit To Hear Suit Over EPA Carbon Monoxide NAAQS** - 9/25/13 - The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit is slated to hear oral arguments Sept. 26 in environmentalists' suit over EPA's decision not to tighten its carbon monoxide national ambient air quality standard.  
<http://insideepa.com/201309252447882/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/dc-circuit-to-hear-suit-over-epa-carbon-monoxide-naaqs/menu-id-97.html>

**Inside EPA - GOP Sharpens Carbon Cost Query To EPA As Industry Urges Rollback** - 9/25/13 - Several GOP senators are sharpening their queries to EPA, asking more questions about the agency's role in developing newly updated estimates of the social cost of carbon (SCC) that were updated without public input.

<http://insideepa.com/201309252447892/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/gop-sharpens-carbon-cost-query-to-epa-as-industry-urges-rollback/menu-id-95.html>

**Inside EPA - McKinley Readies Plan To Kill GHG Rule** - 9/25/13 - Rep. David McKinley (R-WV) is poised to introduce a resolution of disapproval aimed at killing EPA's recently proposed rule regulating greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions at new power plants. <http://insideepa.com/201309252447935/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/mckinley-readies-plan-to-kill-ghg-rule/menu-id-97.html>

**Inside EPA - OTC To Push EPA Adoption Of Model Rules To Cut Products' Emissions** - 9/25/13 - The Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) of eastern states is preparing to send EPA two model rules it wants the agency to adopt nationally, one limiting ozone-forming volatile organic compounds (VOC) emissions from consumer products. <http://insideepa.com/201309252447986/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/otc-to-push-epa-adoption-of-model-rules>

**Inside EPA - Industry Fears EPA Study Opens Door To Blanket Scrutiny Of Smaller Waters** - 9/26/13 - EPA's draft study examining the connectivity of smaller waters to downstream waterbodies suggests the agency is opening the door to blanket regulation of several categories of waters. <http://insideepa.com/201309262448042/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/industry-fears-epa-study-opens-door-to-blanket-scrutiny-of-smaller-waters/menu-id-95.html>

#### **Press Releases:**

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

**Parents, Teachers and Press Urged to Spread Message of National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, October 20-26** – 9/26/13 – Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394

#### **Fact Sheets:**

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

**Update on Rotary Drilling Site, Rotary Drilling Supply, Inc., Crystal City, Jefferson County, Missouri**, 9/26/13 – Contact: Beckie Himes, 7253

#### **Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:**

\* New additions noted with an asterisk

**10/2/13** - Quaker Oats WasteWise Event, Columbia, Mo. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

**10/2/13** - Bridgeton Update with Sara Parker Pauley and Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster, Jefferson City, Mo., Contact: Ron Hammerschmidt, 7566

**10/3/13** - 2013 TMDL 4-State Conference, Regional Office. Contact: John DeLashmit, 7821

**10/31/13** - RA Meeting, Washington DC. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**10/8/13** – Children's Health Month – EJ Small Grants Kick-Off Event, TBD. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555

**10/10/13** – Choteau Gateway Discussion with St. Louis Mayor, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

**10/15/13** - 2013 Fall Water Symposium, Lincoln, Neb. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

**10/29-30/13** - SES National Executive Leadership Development Conference, Washington, DC. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

**11/15/13** – R7 Senior Management Retreat, National Archives at Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Wendy Lubbe, 7551

**DRA:**

**10/07/13** - National SPCC Training Conference, Regional Office   Contact: Margaret Stockdale, 7936

**10/09/13** - Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration, Regional Office   Contact: Karim Dawani, 7289

**10/29-30/13** - SES National Executive Leadership Development Conference - Washington, DC. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

**10/31 –11/1/13** - Executive Management Council Meeting, Washington, DC   Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

**RA/Immediate Office**

None

**Other Events**

**AWMD**

None

**CNSL**

None

**ECO/EJ**

**10/9/13** – Black Health Care Coalition EJ Small Grant Kick Off, Kansas City, Mo.   Contact: Althea Moses, 7649

**11/1/2013** – EJ Presentation at Children’s Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, Mo.   Contact: Althea Moses, 7649

**ENSV**

None

**PLMG**

None

**RA/OPA**

None

**SUPR**

None

**WWPD**

**9/30/13** - Kansas Department of Health and Environment program implementation issues, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Steve Schaff, 7447

**10/1/13** – Ash Grove Cement Company site visit, Chanute, Kan. Contact: Darin Banks, 7224

**10/3/13** – Iowa Tribes Sanitary Survey, White Cloud, Kan. Contact: Kimberly Willis, 7069

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